### 2010 Military Health System Conference

#### MHS Personal Health Portal

A Key To Patient Activation

Sharing Knowledge: Achieving Breakthrough Performance COL Thomas Greig and Mr. Rick Barnhill

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#### **Vision**



- The MHS Patient Portal will provide healthcare related online applications that allow patients to interact and communicate with their healthcare providers, and manage their own health activities
  - Patient Portal supports MHS Strategic Plan Mission Outcome "Healthy and Resilient Individuals, Families and Communities"
  - Patient Portal capability included in the MHS IM/IT Strategic Plan

## Background



- Services Chief Medical Information Officers developed a Personalized Health Strategy which has at its heart a Patient Portal
- A Patient Portal is more than a Personal Health Record
- The MHS Patient Portal will not be TRICARE Online
- The Patient portal will be one "view" of the MHS Portal infrastructure

# **Benefits – Patients/Caregivers**



#### For Patients

- Supports patient's active engagement as a member of his/her healthcare team
- Allows patient/caregiver management of personal healthcare data
- Provides convenience/alternatives
  - On-line versus telephone
- Offers enhanced access to services and information

### **Benefits - Providers/Staff**



- For Providers
  - Promotes patient engagement
  - Offers convenience
    - Asynchronous communication with patients
      - Secure messaging versus T-cons
  - Provides efficiencies
    - Reduced appointments for lab results, medication renewals

### **Benefits - MTF/Services**



#### MTF/Services

- Enables outreach
  - Reminders, Disease-specific patient education materials
- Promotes efficiencies
  - Reduction in appointment No-Shows with patient self-booking
- Provides cost avoidance
  - Results via e-mail versus postal service
  - Enhanced staff utilization

### **Benefits - Discussion**



What additional benefits do you believe can be achieved through the implementation of a patient portal?

# **Desired Capabilities**



- Secure Patient-Provider Messaging
  - Rx Renewal, Consults, e-Visits, Results
- Self-Appointing
- Personal Health Record
  - Clinical Data from EHRs, Patient Entered Data, Device Acquired Data
- Family History
- Health Trackers

## **Desired Capabilities, continued**



- Health Information/Patient Education Materials
- Rx Refill
- Preventive Health Tools/Reminders
- Disease Management Tools
- Forms and Questionnaires
  - Pre-visit, Advance Directives, etc.
- Health Risk Assessments

# **Desired Capabilities: Discussion**



- What do you think are the most important portal capabilities?
  - What are your patients asking about?
  - What would you like to use?
- What experience(s) do you have with any of these capabilities in your practice/at your MTF?

### Strategy



- Position the portal to support standards based, distributed development of new capabilities
- Maximize integration of commercially available applications
- Re-brand from TOL to MHS Portal
- Engage users/Apply "Lessons-Learned" from Service and MTF pilots

#### Plan



- Leverage what can be reused from TRICARE
  Online
  - Provides portal Infrastructure
  - Supports CAC and DMDC DS Log-on
  - Offers Some Basic Features
    - Self-appointing for MTF enrolled beneficiaries
    - Rx Refill
    - Health Risk Assessments
    - Various Links (NLM, DMDC)

### Plan, continued



- Enhance "look and feel" of portal/web pages
- Develop portlets/gadgets to support integration of COTS Secure Messaging and Personal Health Record applications
- Improve Appointing Capability
  - Family Based Appointing
  - Appointing enhancements for MTFs
- Publish standards for distributed (Service) development/integration

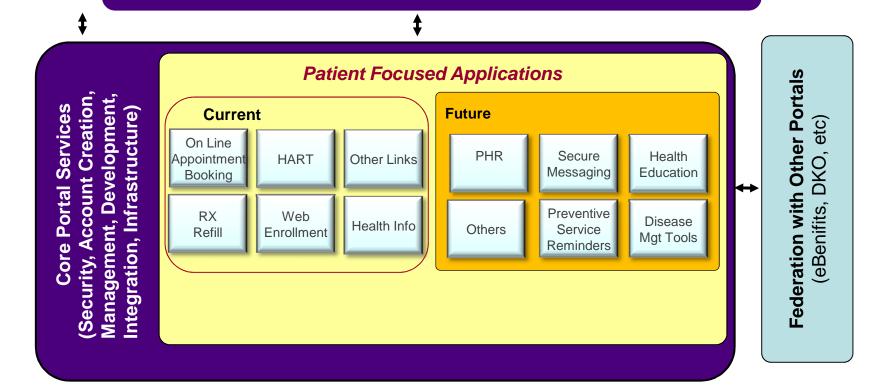
#### **Patient Portal Schema**



#### **Portal Presentation**

Single Sign-on Control Defined Internet Links

Common Look Feel User Customization



### Challenges



- Overcoming TOL "reputation"
- Conflict between ease of use and security rules (especially log-on)
- Competition for funding
- Lengthy acquisition process for new capabilities (developed or procured)
- Marketing

#### **Discussion**



- What additional challenges can you describe?
- Do you have any suggestions on how to overcome challenges to implementing the portal?
- Do you foresee issues with provider acceptance/workflow?
- With regard to marketing any ideas come to mind?

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